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Date: March 27, 2001

By:

Christine C. Gurney
Christine C. Gurney

PATENT
Docket No. GC530-2

#11/B
JRL
4/2/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| In re Application of |) | |
| |) | |
| Nathaniel T. Becker et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 1615 |
| |) | |
| Serial No. 09/285,632 |) | Examiner: Susan Tran |
| |) | |
| Filed: April 2, 1999 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: MODIFIED STARCH COATING |) | |

AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2001, with a shortened statutory date for response set at February 18, 2001, please consider the following amendment and comments. This response is considered timely. A Petition for a two-month extension of time, until April 18, 2001, accompanies this communication.

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 28 - 40, 43 - 45 and 49.

Please add the following new claims.

53. The coating of claim 23, wherein the modified starch includes a hydroxypropyl substitution.

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